LINN COUNTY HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
935 Second Street SW • Cedar Rapids, Iowa 52404 • 319-892-5138

Minutes
May 17, 2023

Members Present
Maura Pilcher, Chair
Todd McNall, Vice-Chair
Steve Ciha
Barb Westercamp, Secretary
Robert Peterson
Kim Hanna

Absent
Nancy Kraft
Hilary Copeland-Marvin
Michael LeClere (on phone)

Guests
None

Staff Present
Bradley Wylam, Staff Liaison
Susan Bennett, Recording Secretary

Call to Order
Vice Chair Todd McNall called the meeting to order at 4:01 p.m.

Public Comment
None

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Westercamp, second by Hanna, those present voting aye, to approve minutes of April 19, 2023, and May 3, 2023.

Announcements/Communication
Wylam reminded Commission members that there is money in the budget for them to attend the Preserve Iowa Summit, and to let staff know if they are interested.

b. Present FY24 HPC Grant Recommendations to Board of Supervisors – June 12 Pilcher will present to the Board of Supervisors.

c. The River City Society for Historic Preservation in Mason City is providing an honorarium for Peterson to give a presentation to their group and area residents on Japanese woodblock prints. Their Society has also contracted with Peterson to create the historical documentation for each of their 23 Japanese woodblock prints.

Budget
Currently there is $19,210 in the budget, as the kiosk invoice has not yet been paid. $2,235 will remain after the invoice for the kiosk is paid.

At this point, Pilcher joined the meeting as Chair.

New Business
Wylam stated that a letter had been received asking if the Historic Preservation Commission was planning to preserve the County Home Water Tower, at the corner of Hwy 13 and County Home Road. McNall asked if a Historic Review had ever been done. No one present remembered a review being done. The water tower is currently not scheduled for demolition. It is unclear if it is still in use, or if management of the tower will be turned over to the ballpark. Ciha will ask Brad Ketels if it is still in use.

FY 2023 Work Plan

a. Discuss & Decide – FY23 Grant Extension for Ely Community History Society
Motion by McNall to extend for 60 days. Second by Westercamp. All present voting aye.

b. Discuss & Decide – Process for Answering Vendor Questions - RFP for Klinsky Farm NRHP Nomination
Wylam stated the RFP was sent to 12 companies. McNall asked if a small group should be set up to answer any questions via email. Westercamp motioned to allow the Executive Committee (Pilcher, McNall & Westercamp) to answer any questions that come in. Second by Hanna. All present voting aye.

c. Update on Lisbon and Mount Vernon Lincoln Highway Kiosks
Ciha stated there is a site location meeting on June 5th at 3pm in Lisbon and at 3:30 in Mount Vernon. Ciha, McNall and Darrin from CR Signs will be attending the meeting. Pilcher asked if the work on the signs could be done in June, but
paid for in July, and asked if that was something that needed to be cleared through Linn County Purchasing.

d. Lincoln Highway Kiosk Presentation on Mt Vernon Road – Bob Peterson Peterson presented an in-depth look at the Lincoln Highway Kiosk for the Commission. He stated where the Kiosk is located is covered with mud, and the kiosk would be better protected if it were moved further from the creek area. Peterson believes that the bridge might be part of the original Highway.

Next Regular Meeting
Wednesday, June 21, 2023 @ 4 pm

Adjournment – meeting was adjourned at 5:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted  
Sue Bennett, Recording Secretary

Approved,  
Maura Pilcher, Chair